

## REMARKS

Claims 3-4, 7-11 and 13-18 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were stated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3, 4, and 13-14 were rewritten in independent form to place in condition for allowance and each of claims 7-11 and 15-18 are dependent on one of the rewritten independent claims.

Claims 1-2 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kubo et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0020991. Claims 12, and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubo et al. in view of Park, U.S. Patent No. 6,784,963.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to provide that the first alignment controller is arranged only on a boundary of the first and second areas or only in the vicinity of the boundary. In contrast, Kubo et al., according to the Examiner, discloses a first alignment-controller which is not shown, see page 15 of Kubo et al., for controlling alignment of the liquid crystal molecules, the first alignment-controller being arranged at a boundary of the first and second areas or in the vicinity of the boundary, citing Fig. 25. Neither Fig. 25 nor paragraph [0283] discloses teaches or suggest the location of the first alignment-controller being arranged only at the boundary of the first and second areas or only in the vicinity of the boundary.

## CLOSING

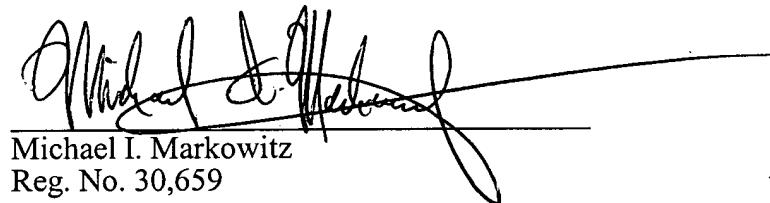
An earnest effort has been made to be fully responsive to the Examiner's objections. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that independent claims 1, 3-4, and 13-14 are in condition for allowance, as well as those claims dependent therefrom. Passage of this case to allowance is earnestly solicited.

However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Please charge Deposit Account 50-1290 the sum of \$400.00 for two (2) independent claims added by this amendment in excess of the independent claims for which payment has already been paid.

Any fee due with this paper, not fully covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Amended Figs. 8-12

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**IN THE DRAWINGS**

Please find enclosed Figs. 8 to 12 as originally filed with proposed changes indicated thereon in red for the approval of the Examiner.